

MacNabb House
HA 1927

This two and a half story frame house is located on the uphill east side of Chestnut Street, overlooking the village of Cardiff, Maryland. The house is a large four bays wide with a two-story service wing offset slightly to the south of the building's rear side. Originally, the main house was three bays with the cross gable centered on the steep gable roof. A major two-story addition to the building's north gable wall widened the structure to the present four bays.

The house is commonly known as the MacNabb House for the well-respected lawyer and his family who resided here from 1910 to the mid-fifties. The major addition to the main house is attributed to the MacNabb family. In deference to Charles MacNabb, the street below this house and perpendicular to Chestnut was named for him.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
HISTORIC TRUSTS

Survey No. HA 1927

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common MacNabb House

2. Location

street & number 1613 Chestnut Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Cardiff

vicinity of

congressional district 5th

state Maryland

county

Harford

3. Classification

Category

 district

☒ building(s)

 structure

 site

 object

Ownership

 public

☒ private

 both

Public Acquisition

 in process

☒ being considered

☒ not applicable

Status

☒ occupied

 unoccupied

 work in progress

Accessible

☒ yes: restricted

 yes: unrestricted

 no

Present Use

 agriculture

 commercial

 educational

 entertainment

 government

 industrial

 military

 museum

☒ park

☒ private residence

 religious

 scientific

 transportation

 other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Brian H. and Kelly S. Williams

street & number same

telephone no.: (410)452-5484

city, town Cardiff

state and zip code MD, 21024

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse

liber CGH 1937

street & number 20 W. Courtland Pl.

folio 88

city, town Bel Air

state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date

 federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. HA 1927

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This two and a half story frame house is located on the uphill east side of Chestnut Street, overlooking the village of Cardiff, Maryland. A granite wall retains the ridge slope at the property's street edge, and a small barn is located to the rear of the house. The house is a large four bays wide with a two-story service wing offset slightly to the south of the building's rear side. A cross gable is located above the central southern bay, with an interior chimney rising above. The foundation is of the region's renowned slate, however the original slate roof has been replaced by modern asphalt shingles. A deep porch with a shallow hip-roof spans the west, main facade.

Numerous alterations to the house have occurred over time. Originally, the main house was three bays wide with the cross gable with returns centered on the steep gable roof. A major two-story addition to the building's north gable wall widened the structure to the present four bays, with a shed-roof dormer to the north providing visual balance to the cross gable. The original north service ell contained a double porch on the south side, both of which have been finished to provide increased interior space. In addition, a one-story shed-roof sunroom extends the length of the service wing farther eastward. The deep porch which runs the length of the main facade most likely replaced a more narrow porch.

Sided with cedar shingles, the main facade is four bays across in both the upper and lower stories, with the main entrance located at the south bay. All windows of the main house are 1/1 sash, with working shutters at single windows. A single window is centered at the cross gable. On the left gable, a secondary entrance flanked by double windows is located in the posterior half of the first story, with a single window positioned toward the front. Two double windows and a single 1/1 in the upper story compliment the lower bays, and a single window is centered at the gable. The south gable contains a two-story bay to the east and a single window centered at the gable. No openings were built into the short rear wall of the main house.

Though two stories in height, the rear service wing is shorter than the main segment of the house. The southern exposure of the two-story service ell and first story addition contain numerous openings, to include an additional secondary entrance and four full-length multi-paned windows. Original to the building is a second story shed-roof sunporch at the aftermost elevation.

The interior space of the main house is of a three room plan, with a parlor and side stair comprising the anterior half of the first floor and posterior half divided into two rooms. The second floor is made up of a side hall and banastered stair, two side bedrooms, and bath. Kitchen, utility, and living space occupy the service wing first floor, with a second bath, an unusual open nursery area with built-in crib, and narrow sunroom located on the second floor.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA 1927

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Similar to four other houses on this uphill side of Chestnut Street, this large circa 1905 house was originally three bays wide with a center cross gable on the steep gable roof of the main facade. An early, large two-story addition widened the main house to its present four bays, thus altering its visual relationship to the four houses of the same plan. As with most of the structures in this slate quarrying region, coursed slate forms the foundation and full basement under the original house. A coursed slate crawl space under the addition indicates its early building date, as use of slate waned in the late twenties. Large rooms, high ceilings, and numerous windows characterize the interior of this turn-of-the-century home.

The house is commonly known as the MacNabb House for the well-respected lawyer and his family who resided here from 1910 to the mid-fifties. The major addition to the main house is attributed to the MacNabb family. In deference to Charles MacNabb, the street below this house and perpendicular to Chestnut was named for him.

Five small pieces form this 1.35 acre parcel, with the original source as the patented land tract of "Hawkins Chance". Originally owned by Archibald Hawkins, the tract was located atop the slate ridge and was sold in pieces to Welsh immigrants who came to the area seeking fortune in slate quarrying. The tract of 74 acres 5 perches had at least one quarry within its bounds and formed much of the northern village of Cardiff.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA 1927

See attached sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.345 acresQuadrangle name DeltaQuadrangle scale 24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingB

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 226, Tax Map 5

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state none code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dianne Klairorganization Harford County Planning and Zoning date March 1996street & number 220 S. Main Street telephone (410)638-3103city or town Bel Air state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DROP/BOX
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
410-771-1100

MacNABB HOUSE
Title Search

CGH 1937/88	April 8, 1993	Grantor: Dorothy Glackin Grantee: Brian H. and Kelly S. Williams Granted: town parcel of 1.345 acres with improvements
GRG 474/400	December 31, 1956	Grantor: Helen Harkins, Executrix of Will of V. Catherine MacNabb Grantee: Paul L. and Dorothy Glackin Granted: same
SWC 246/116	May 27, 1937	Grantor: Mary Rolph Grantee: Charles H. and V. Catherine MacNabb Granted: five lots, forming a contiguous 1.5 acre parcel (see following title chains 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
SWC 246/114	May 27, 1937	Grantor: Charles H. and V. Catherine MacNabb Grantee: Mary Rolph Granted: seven lots, six of which are in the Fifth Election District and five of which form the aforementioned 1.5 acre parcel
(1)		
JAR 130/201	April 30, 1910	Grantor: William R. and Olive M. Orr Grantee: Charles H. MacNabb Granted: town lot of 64.3 perches, fronting 100' on Chestnut Street
JAR 130/199	April 27, 1910	Grantor: Walter and Sarah Glasgow Grantee: William R. and Olive M. Orr Granted: town lot with improvements for \$500.00
WSF 94/35	May 21, 1898	Grantor: Humphrey R. and Jane H. Lloyd Grantee: Walter Glasgow Granted: 64.3 perches, being part of a larger tract "Hawkins Chance"
ALJ 38/81	July 6, 1878	Grantor: Hugh E. and Isabella Hughes Grantee: Humphrey R. Lloyd Granted: 21 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$5100.00
ALJ 28/292	October 30, 1872	Grantor: Jane Ellis (of Philadelphia) Grantee: Hugh E. Hughes Granted: 1/3 interest in 21 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$550.00

ALJ 28/292	January 9, 1873	<p>Grantor: William E. and Ann Hughes (of Pittsburgh)</p> <p>Grantee: Hugh E. Hughes</p> <p>Granted: 1/3 interest in 21 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$550.00</p> <p>Edward Hughes died seized, with 21 acres of "Hawkins Chance" divided between Hugh, William, and Jane Hughes</p>
WG 11/448	June 4, 1860	<p>Grantor: William E. Hughes</p> <p>Grantee: Hugh E. Hughes</p> <p>Granted: 23 and 3/4 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$2000.00</p>
ALJ 9/412	March 15, 1858	<p>Grantor: Edward and Phebe Hughes</p> <p>Grantee: William E. Hughes</p> <p>Granted: same, for \$2000.00</p>
HDG 36/423 HDG 35/359 (recorded 2x)	June 9, 1849	<p>Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins</p> <p>Grantee: Edward Hughes</p> <p>Granted: 23 and 3/4 acres, part of larger tract "Hawkins Chance" for \$230.00</p>
(2)		
JAR 130/200	April 30, 1910	<p>Grantor: Humphrey R. and Jane H. Lloyd</p> <p>Grantee: Charles H. MacNabb</p> <p>Granted: 15,000 sq ' between hypothetical Parry Street and Hawkins Alley</p>
ALJ 38/81	July 6, 1878	<p>Grantor: Hugh E. and Isabella Hughes</p> <p>Grantee: Humphrey R. Lloyd</p> <p>See deed reference ALJ 38/81 on (1) for remainder of title chain.</p>
(3)		
JAR 155/199	December 11, 1916	<p>Grantor: South Delta Land Company</p> <p>Grantee: Charles H. MacNabb</p> <p>Granted: 5562.5 sq ' parcel fronting Chestnut Street for \$5.00</p>
WSF 88/282	May 26, 1896	<p>Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams (trustee, as appointed in Equity Case WSF 41/351 Elizabeth J. Parry v. Margaret Parry et al.)</p> <p>Grantee: South Delta Land Company (via James Poff, agent)</p> <p>Granted: a part of the lands described in equity case (less than 19 acres) to be subdivided into town building lots</p>

Plat book DGW 2/64	1891	Survey plat of lots to be subdivided, South Delta Land Company
Will Records WS 10/440	September 12, 1888	John Parry, quarryman, bequeaths: To his daughter, Elizabeth, the house in which he resides and the 84' by 400' lot on which it stands. To his son, Richard Parry, all his remaining lands, approximately 17 acres To each of his children, Mary Williams, John, Richard, Jacob, and Elizabeth Parry 1/6 of his shares in the Welsh Slate Company of Harford County.
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Hugh E. Hughes Grantee: John Parry Granted: 10 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$1050.00
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Humphrey R. and Jane H. Lloyd Grantee: John Parry Granted: 2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" with improvements, on west side of Main St. (same as ALJ 25/346) for \$1200.00
ALJ 25/346	April 11, 1871	Grantor: Richard Hughes and wife Grantee: Jane H. Lloyd (daughter) Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch (see ALJ 9/29)
ALJ 9/30	May 29, 1857	Grantor: Richard Hughes et al. Grantee: John and Ellin Parry Granted: 8 acres 35 perches of "Hawkins Chance" for \$500.00
ALJ 9/29	May 29, 1857	Grantor: John Parry Grantee: Richard Hughes Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch
HDG 36/424	July 27, 1850	Grantor: Ro(w)land and Anne Parry Grantee: John Parry and Richard Hughes Granted: 3 1/2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$350.00
HDG 36/215	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Rowland Perry Grantee: John Perry and Richard Hughes Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$600.00
HDG 36/214 (indenture)	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Benjamin Williams Grantee: John Perry et al. Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$200.00

HDG 36/212	January 22, 1850	Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins Grantee: Rowland Perry (Parry) Granted: part of "Hawkins Chance" for \$850.00, acreage unknown
HDG 34/492	February 9, 1849	Grantor: Edward Proctor et al. Grantee: Archabald A. Hawkins Granted: "Hawkins Chance", being part of Thomas Hawkins landholdings; 74 acres 5 perches
HD 14/336	August 3, 1831	Grantor: Isaac Hawkins, heir to Thomas Hawkins Grantee: Thomas Proctor, heir to Edward Proctor Granted: The eighth part of land tracts "Hawkins Chance", "Williams Birthright", Mount Pleasant", and "Montgomerys Delight". The four tracts contain 188 acres total. No mention of "eighth part" acreage.
Land Tract, Patented	After March 1774, when Harford est.	"Hawkins Chance", tract of 74 acres 5 perches granted to Thomas Hawkins. Located on the Maryland and Pennsylvania line at the north end of present day Cardiff. Divided, sold, and reworked often.
(4)		
JAR 164/128	May 14, 1919	Grantor: Robert H. and Ida M. Lloyd Grantee: Charles H. MacNabb Granted: Parcel of unrecorded size, fronting Chestnut Street 50' for \$5.00 (improvements mentioned)
JAR 160/400	September 16, 1918	Grantor: Humphrey R. Lloyd (widower) Grantee: Robert H. Lloyd Granted: same parcel for \$1.00
ALJ 38/81	July 6, 1878	Grantor: Hugh E. and Isabella Hughes Grantee: Humphrey R. Lloyd See deed reference ALJ 38/81 on (1) for remainder of title chain.
(5)		
DGW 206/191	October 14, 1927	Grantor: South Delta Land Company Grantee: Charles H. MacNabb Granted: 4550 sq' parcel between Hawkins Alley and Parry Street for \$10.00 See deed reference WSF 88/282 on (3) for remainder of title chain.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

Conversations with Brian and Kelly Williams, April 5, 1995, January 16, 1996, and others.

Conversation with Mrs. Darcy Lloyd, April 11, 1995.

Our Harford Heritage, C. Milton Wright. 1967.

History of York County, Gibson. 1880.

Land Records, Harford County Courthouse.

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.



USGS Delta Quadrangle
1 : 24000
MacNabb House
HA 1927



2 1995

MacNab House

Stafford County, Maryland

Dianne Kli -

Apr 1995 ← Maryland SHPC

View east from Chestnut Street

1/1



- A 1927

Peckham - 1927

The pond, L. 100 ft., 100 yd.
Dug in 1927.

Apr 1, 1927 - 100 yd. 100 ft.

See last page - Chester - 1927

2/7



4th May

1st group 2nd

1st group 2nd

1st group 2nd

1st group 2nd

1st group 2nd

1st group 2nd

3



HA 1927

MacNabb House

Harford Court, Maryland

Dianne Klair

April 1995

Maryland SHPo

View Southeast from Chestnut Street

4/7



Feb 1927

MacNabb House

Hanford County, Maryland

Drawing Room

April 1995

Maryland State

Detail of main facade - first story

1/7





HA 1927

MacNabb House

Harford County, Maryland

Dianne Klein

April 1995

Maryland SHRE

Interior detail of kitchen

1/7